

Children's Health Insurance Program of Pennsylvania

CHIP

Title XXI Fiscal Year Report

1 October 1997 through 30 September 1998

Submitted by:

Pennsylvania CHIP

PENNSYLVANIA CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

FISCAL YEAR REPORT

October 1, 1997 through September 30, 1998

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Department of Insurance is submitting the 1998 Children's Health Insurance Program Title XXI Fiscal Year Report for 1998. Data in this report is being provided beginning with the time period the state plan was originally approved, June 1998 through September 30, 1998.

II. PROGRAM BACKGROUND

Legislation creating the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) was passed by the Pennsylvania General Assembly in December, 1992 (the Children's Health Insurance Act, 62 P.S. 5001.101). Enrollment of children began in May, 1993. It was the intent of the legislation that children in families with incomes below specified levels have access to cost-effective, health care coverage if they were otherwise unable to afford coverage or to obtain it through an employer-sponsored plan. Eligible children received either free or low-cost coverage.

CHIP was initially funded by a 2-cents per pack tax on cigarettes (later increased to 3 cents per pack). The number of participants was limited by the amount of funding available. Since the implementation of CHIP, over 180,000 children have received comprehensive coverage.

With the passage of the Federal Balanced Budget Act of 1997, the availability of substantial federal funding, and the commitment of additional state funding by the Ridge Administration, CHIP may serve thousands of additional children continuing its legacy of quality care

III. TYPE OF PROGRAM

Pennsylvania's CHIP program is a state-designed, stand alone program . Phase 1 of the CHIP program was based on the then existing state-designed

program and was approved by HCFA in May of 1998. Phase II of the program, which expanded age and income eligibility, was approved by HCFA in November of 1998.

IV. ADMINISTRATION

CHIP, prior to legislative changes effectuated in June 1998, was overseen by a Management Team comprised of members of the Governor's cabinet. CHIP is now solely administered through the Insurance Department.

V. APPLICATION AND PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY LEVELS

Eligibility for CHIP is determined by each of the five participating contractors. Each contractor has unique enrollment materials and a single page application form. Applications are filed through the mail with assistance, if necessary, provided through telephonic consultation. Each contractor maintains a toll-free telephone number for this purpose.

The state CHIP statute, 62 P.S. Section 50001.101, <u>as amended</u> by Act 68 of 1998, provides that the free CHIP program cover children 0-18 years of age whose family income falls at or under 200% of federal poverty income guidelines ("FPIG"). Pennsylvania also operates a subsidized program for children in families with incomes between 200% and 235% of FPIG. The subsidized program also covers children 0-18 years of age. CHIP pays 50% of the premium and the family is responsible for paying the remaining 50%.

VI. BENEFITS

Pennsylvania was one of three states whose comprehensive benefit package was cited by the Title XXI legislation as providing sufficient coverage to meet the requirements for a state CHIP. The benefit package is the existing CHIP benefit package that includes the following comprehensive services:

 Well child care visits in accordance with the schedule established by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the services related to those visits, including, but not limited to, immunizations, health education, tuberculosis testing and developmental screening in accordance with a routine schedule of well-child visits. Care also includes a comprehensive physical examination, including X-rays, if necessary, for any child exhibiting symptoms of possible child abuse;

- Diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury, including medically necessary services related to the diagnosis and treatment of sickness and injury and other conditions provided on an ambulatory basis, such as laboratory tests, wound dressing and casting to immobilize fractures;
- Injections and medications provided at the time of the office visit or therapy; and outpatient surgery performed in the office, a hospital or freestanding ambulatory service center, including anesthesia provided in conjunction with such service or during emergency medical service.
- Emergency accident and emergency medical care.
- Prescription drugs.
- Emergency, preventive and routine dental care. Orthodontia or cosmetic surgery is not included.
- Emergency, preventive and routine vision care, including the cost of corrective lenses and frames, not to exceed two prescriptions per year.
- Emergency, preventive and routine hearing care.
- Inpatient hospitalization up to 90 days per year.
- Mental health benefits consisting of 50 outpatient visits per year and inpatient hospitalization subject to the 90-day hospitalization limit.

VII. HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM

CHIP is currently available in all 67 counties of Pennsylvania and is administered by five healthcare plans; Aetna U.S. Healthcare, Independence Blue Cross and PA Blue Shield Caring Foundation for Children, the Caring Foundation of Central Pa, the Caring_Foundation of Northeastern PA, and Western PA Caring Foundation, Inc. (See <u>ATTACHMENT A</u> for specific counties covered by each plan). The five healthcare plans currently administering CHIP have been participants in the program since its inception.

CHIP enrollees are currently served through managed care plans, except in five counties located in the western part of the state because of the lack of sufficient provider networks in those areas. CHIP enrollees utilize the same provider network as those utilized by their commercial counterparts.

VIII. SOURCE OF STATE MATCH

The match for the period of this report is from a three-cent tax on cigarettes (\$31 million) and from state general fund monies (\$15 million).

XIV. COST SHARING

There are no cost-sharing features in the program.

X. BASELINE ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED

Estimates of the number of uninsured children in Pennsylvania were derived from calculations made by using an average of the March 1995-97 Current Population Surveys ("CPS"). CHIP eligibles were defined as those children in families not eligible for MA and under the CHIP gross income levels. Those estimates indicated that Pennsylvania had an uninsured population of approximately 300,000 children, a third of which were considered to be eligible for CHIP.

Pennsylvania's original estimates were also based on a three-year average of the CPS, but Pennsylvania used 1994-96 CPS census data. That estimate indicated that approximately 247,846 children were uninsured, of which approximately 100,000 children were considered to be eligible for CHIP. Recently, Pennsylvania has re-calculated the number of uninsured children

using 1995-97 CPS census data. Those re-calculations indicate that Pennsylvania has approximately 193,674 uninsured children with approximately 91,351 eligible for CHIP (See <u>ATTACHMENT B</u>). That number, reduced by 19,839 children (enrollment increase since 1997), leaves a total of approximately 71,512 uninsured children eligible for CHIP (57,317 free; 14,195 subsidized).

XI. REDUCTION IN TARGETED NUMBER OF UNINSURED

At the time Pennsylvania's state plan was approved, it was estimated that Pennsylvania would have an enrollment of approximately 63,000 children by the end of it's fiscal year, June 1999. Pennsylvania, as of the time period of this annual report (June 1998 – October 1998), has enrolled 9,301 additional children bringing our total number of enrollments up from 57,277 to 65,578. Pennsylvania is currently increasing enrollment by an average of 2.8% per month. Enrollments as of March 1999 are at 73,158 (see <u>ATTACHMENT C</u>). At our current average growth rate, we could potentially enroll approximately 80,000 children by the end of the state's fiscal year, and 90,500 by October, 1999.

XII. CROWD OUT

As required by both federal and state law, children must be uninsured and ineligible for Medical Assistance ("MA") to be eligible for CHIP. This information is derived by various means, including the ability of contractors to verify whether the family has private or employer-based coverage through company subscription records. It is estimated that approximately 800 children had private coverage at the time of application to CHIP during the time period June 1, 1998 through September 30, 1998. For the time period October 1, 1998 through December 1998, it is estimated that approximately 700 children had private coverage at the time of application

Pennsylvania will soon utilize an official common CHIP/MA application form which will ask questions regarding previous and current insurance coverage.

In addition to addressing private health coverage crowd-out, Pennsylvania has also instituted a cross-match system with the MA program to determine whether new applicants are already receiving MA prior to enrollment in

CHIP. This process is performed monthly and currently is only being applied to new applicants as opposed to re-enrollees.

The cross-match process has worked exceptionally well, averaging only a 3% "hit" rate. Contractors are required to provide the Insurance Department with a "Disposition Report" once matches are discovered. A substantial number of matches turn out to be the result of "administrative lag time" between when MA notifies the family that they are no longer eligible and when the child's name is actually removed from MA's system. Families are enrolled in CHIP once they respond to the contractor's notice and provide the necessary 162 denial form from MA.

XIII. OUTREACH EFFORTS

The Insurance Department has been engaged in multiple outreach efforts to enroll children in CHIP, including a highly successful statewide media campaign (TV and radio ads, movie screen ads, posters and brochures --see latest CHIP brochure—*ATTACHMENT D*).

Families respond to the ads by calling a toll-free number, 1-800-986 KIDS. The number provides them with specific information regarding CHIP, screens them for potential eligibility for CHIP and/or MA and supplies them with appropriate applications. Experienced Helpline staff guide families through the necessary process to apply for healthcare benefits for their children (see Helpline statistics on call rates during media campaign, October 1998 through January 1999, <u>ATTACHMENT E</u>).

Other outreach efforts are occurring in conjunction with strong government, inter-departmental relationships, as well as local community groups. For example, the MA program and CHIP have temporarily agreed to an "Any Form is a Good Form" policy which means that information submitted on a CHIP application can be used to apply for MA and vice versa. This procedure will be utilized pending finalization of a common application form (see ATTACHMENT F).

XIV. EVALUATION AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

As noted in Section XV below, the Insurance Department currently lacks the proper data systems to evaluate the program internally. We have now contracted with a vendor to design a comprehensive computer system for the program. All CHIP contractors will be required to electronically link to the central data system. We anticipate completion of our new computer system within the next year. CHIP will collect data on quality and appropriateness of care in accordance with criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Academy of Pediatrics and HEDIS In addition, we will be in a better position to ascertain enrollment patterns, market strengths and weaknesses, enrollee demographics and satisfaction with the program in order to be properly informed about the overall performance of the program.

XV. STATISTICAL REPORTING BY AGE, SERVICE DELIVERY AND COUNTABLE INCOME LEVELS

See <u>ATTACHMENT G</u>. Note: Forms 21E, as provided by HCFA, were broken out into individual pages for the various age cohorts. For convenience, Pennsylvania has combined the various age cohorts on one form, for each quarter. The Medicaid statistical report, Form 64E, is still being compiled by our MA program. CHIP will submit that information to HCFA once we have received it.

XVI. QUARTERLY EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL DATA

See ATTACHMENT H.

XVII. BARRIERS TO EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE PLAN

A. Computer Data Systems

There is currently no central electronic data processing system for CHIP. Contractors maintain individual data systems for the purpose of enrollment, billing and service delivery. The only standards for data collection have been quarterly and annual reports regarding enrollment by various configurations (county-by-county, age, sex and ethnic categories), service

patterns and grievance reports, with no real way to verify such data. All billing is submitted via monthly paper reports.

Pennsylvania CHIP found the on-line submission process difficult. person entering the data cannot easily see or print the information being entered. It is also difficult to verify the entered information. In submitting the 4th quarterly HCFA 21E statistical reports, the Insurance Department has concerns that the information collected is not representative of our efforts here in Pennsylvania. Our program expanded from a simplistic one to a much more ambitious undertaking. In the process of this "spurt growth" we are trying to expeditiously but prudently build adequate data systems. This means the data that you have received for this submission (and we anticipate you will continue to receive until the spring of next year) were compiled from information received from five separate vendor sources. We have neither a binding contractual agreement nor the staff to individually audit these private companies' data collection and reporting practices. recognize that this is a less than optimal situation and have taken the following steps to improve the process and the veracity of the data that we send to you:

- 1. We have contracted with Design Data Corporation, as of March 5, 1999, to design a CHIP-specific data system and to proscribe the method of contractor data collection to permit periodic, program supervised auditing of client records and billing practices.
- 2. We have engaged in a process that will explore, document and decide the method by which eligibility will be determined (possible carve out of the eligibility and enrollment process); enrollment data will be stored and what claims information will be reported.
- 3. After the above process is completed, we will house and have the ability to analyze information on all Pennsylvania CHIP clients in a controlled data environment.

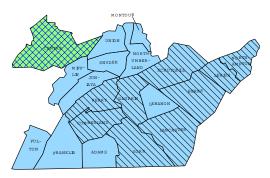
B. Turnover in Enrollments.

While Pennsylvania has done well in reducing the number of uninsured children in the state, it has been noted that a considerable number of families do not reapply on their anniversary dates. This turnover in enrollments erodes and distorts the penetration rate of the program. In an effort to

determine the reason for this lack of response, the Insurance Department has commissioned our advertising agency to conduct focus groups. We are hopeful that the results of the focus groups will help us address this issue.



Caring Foundation of Central Pennsylvania



- Central only
- Central shared with AET NA
- Central shared with Western

Caring Foundation of Northeast Pennsylvania



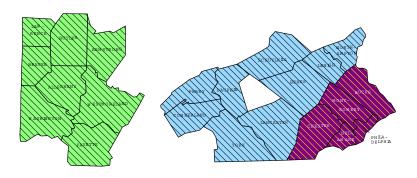
Northeast

Independence Blue Cross/PA Blue Sheild



Independence shared with AFT NA

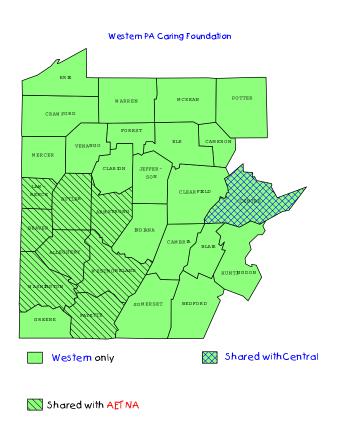
U.S. Healthcare



AET NA shared with Western

METNA shared with Independence

Central shared with AETNA





CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM 1995-97 UNINSURED CHILDREN (3 YEAR AVERAGE)

NUMBER OF UNINSURED CHILDREN AT CURRENT GROSS LIMITS

	FREE	SUBSIDIZED	TOTAL	
Gross Limits	MA>200%	200%-235%		
AGE				
Under 1	0	1,740	1,740	
1 thru 5	5,541	4,376	9,917	
6 thru 15	50,322	8,958	59,280	
16 thru 18	18,996	1,418	20,414	
TOTAL UNINSURED	74,859	16,492	91,351	Assumed uninsured during 1997
Enrollment increase since 1997	17,542	2,297	19,839	Used 7/97 (as mid-point) thru 2/99
Net Uninsured	57,317	14,195	71,512	
Enrollment Target	124,080	18,901	142,981	February enrollment plus net uninsured
Governor's 99-00 Budget	125,551	8,536	134,088	From Insurance Department earlier model



CHIP Enrollment Growth

	Cen	tral	North	east	Indeper	ndence	Wes	tern	US Hea	lthcare	СН	IP
	Total Enrollment	% Change From Last Month										
FY96-97	7,237		3,805		11,529		20,880		7,217		50,668	
FY97-98												
JULY	7,246	0.12%	3,805	0.00%	11,529	0.00%	21,801	4.41%	7,249	0.44%	51,630	1.90%
AUGUST	7,404	2.18%	3,857	1.37%	12,292	6.62%	21,801	0.00%	7,500	3.46%	52,854	2.37%
SEPTEMBER	7,296	-1.46%	3,915	1.50%	12,288	-0.03%	21,801	0.00%	7,696	2.61%	52,996	0.27%
OCTOBER	7,344	0.66%	3,998	2.12%	12,291	0.02%	21,801	0.00%	7,881	2.40%	53,315	0.60%
NOVEMBER	7,519	2.38%	4,038	1.00%	12,414	1.00%	22,461	3.03%	8,288	5.16%	54,720	2.64%
DECEMBER	7,618	1.32%	4,147	2.70%	12,503	0.72%	22,352	-0.49%	8,397	1.32%	55,017	0.54%
JANUARY	7,753	1.77%	4,055	-2.22%	12,337	-1.33%	22,323	-0.13%	8,953	6.62%	55,421	0.73%
FEBRUARY	7,682	-0.92%	4,019	-0.89%	12,528	1.55%	22,099	-1.00%	8,944	-0.10%	55,272	-0.27%
MARCH	7,798	1.51%	4,046	0.67%	12,871	2.74%	21,771	-1.48%	8,911	-0.37%	55,397	0.23%
APRIL	7,894	1.23%	4,081	0.87%	13,230	2.79%	21,909	0.63%	9,166	2.86%	56,280	1.59%
MAY	7,927	0.42%	4,039	-1.03%	13,600	2.80%	21,754	-0.71%	9,228	0.68%	56,548	0.48%
JUNE	8,005	0.98%	4,080	1.02%	13,833	1.71%	21,985	1.06%	9,374	1.58%	57,277	1.29%
Total % Change,	FY97-98:	10.61%		7.23%		19.98%		5.29%		29.89%		13.04%
FY98-99												
JULY	8,008	0.04%	4,073	-0.17%	15,020	8.58%	23,813	8.31%	9,988	6.55%	60,902	6.33%
AUGUST	7,909	-1.24%	4,115	1.03%	15,052	0.21%	23,950	0.58%	9,959	-0.29%	60,985	0.14%
SEPTEMBER	8,227	4.02%	4,207	2.24%	17,452	15.94%	25,769	7.59%	9,923	-0.36%	65,578	7.53%
OCTOBER	8,463	2.87%	4,296	2.12%	17,730	1.59%	25,833	0.25%	9,983	0.60%	66,305	1.11%
NOVEMBER	8,705	2.86%	4,571	6.40%	17,973	1.37%	25,780	-0.21%	9,860	-1.23%	66,889	0.88%
DECEMBER	9,007	3.47%	4,737	3.63%	18,611	3.55%	26,344	2.19%	9,677	-1.86%	68,376	2.22%
JANUARY	9,499	5.46%	5,003	5.62%	18,807	1.05%	27,045	2.66%	9,923	2.54%	70,277	2.78%
FEBRUARY	9,786	3.02%	5,174	3.42%	19,284	2.54%	27,363	1.18%	9,862	-0.61%	71,469	1.70%
MARCH	10,168	3.90%	5,352	3.44%	19,582	1.55%	27,920	2.04%	10,136	2.78%	73,158	2.36%
APRIL	0		0		0		0		0		0	
MAY	0		0		0		0		0		0	
JUNE	0		0		0		0		0		0	





If you're a working family but don't have health insurance for your kids, now you can cover them free or at low cost.



CHIP is Pennsylvania's program to provide quality health insurance for children of working families who otherwise could not afford it. It is not a welfare program.

Your children qualify for CHIP coverage when your family income is within certain limits. This income can be from jobs that do not provide insurance, from self-employment, from alimony or child support, from survivor benefits, or other sources.

CHIP is administered by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department, but the coverage is for quality medical services through regular health insurance companies.

Most children who qualify for CHIP get free coverage.

For others, CHIP coverage is at monthly rates much lower than insurance usually costs. Whether your child is eligible for free or low-cost coverage depends on family income, size of family, and age of the child. Families who qualify for low-cost rather than free CHIP pay monthly premiums ranging from \$20 to \$40 per child, depending on where they live in Pennsylvania. These rates are 50% to 75% lower than the usual cost of similar insurance coverage.

Number in family, including parents	FREE CHIP You qualify for free CHIP if your annual family income is no higher than	You qualify for low-cost CHIP if your annual family income is from		
2	\$21,700	\$21,701 to \$25,498		
3	\$27,300	\$27,301 to \$32,078		
4	\$32,900	\$32,901 to \$38,658		
5	\$38,500	\$38,501 to \$45,238		
6	\$44,100	\$44,101 to \$51,818		
7	\$49,700	\$49,701 to \$58,398		
8	\$55,300	\$55,301 to \$64,978		

Income figures effective through February 28, 1999.



Your kids can be healthier and you can have peace of mind when you cover them through CHIP.

With CHIP, your child will be guaranteed access to quality health care, including:

- Regular check-ups and immunizations by a doctor who will know your child
- Prescription drugs
- Emergency care
- Certain dental, vision, hearing, and mental health services
- Diagnostic testing
- Up to 90 days hospitalization in any year

Children are covered by CHIP regardless of any pre-existing medical condition. Kids can be covered from birth until their 19th birthday. They must be U.S. citizens or lawful aliens and have resided in Pennsylvania for at least 30 days (except for newborns).

You can get help covering your kids by calling 1-800-986-KIDS.

Figuring out insurance questions these days can be complicated. The Pennsylvania Insurance Department wants to help parents who want CHIP coverage for their children.

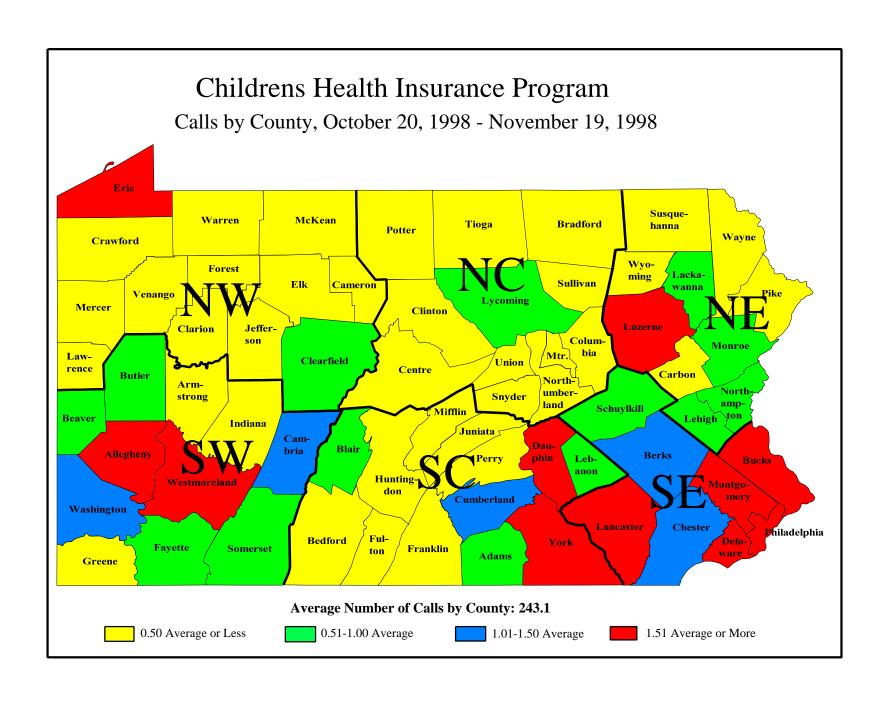
Knowledgeable, courteous counselors are available at 1-800-986-KIDS. A counselor will help you sort through the information and get your kids enrolled in this quality insurance program. If you think your children may qualify, please call the toll-free number for help.

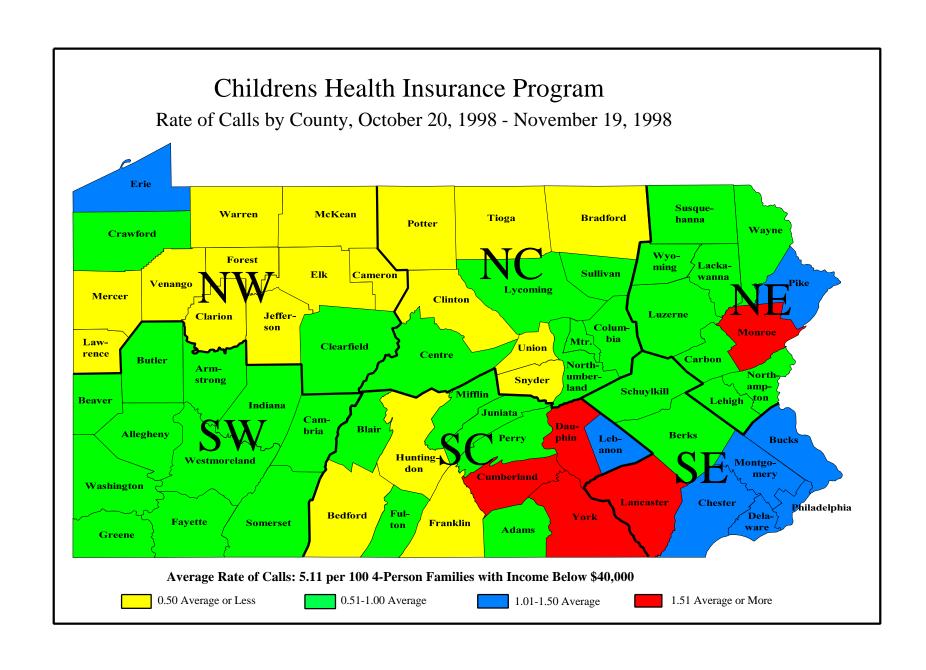


Tom Ridge, Governor Diane Koken, Insurance Commissioner

1-800-986-KIDS







Childrens Health Insurance Program Calls from October 20, 1998 through November 19, 1998

County	Number of Calls	Number of 4-Person Families with Income Below \$40,000	Rate of Calls per 100 4-Person Families with Income Below \$40,000
Adams	126	2,632	4.79
Allegheny	1584	32,482	4.88
Armstrong	84	3,082	2.73
Beaver	198	6,585	3.01
Bedford	27	2,143	1.26
Berks	342	7,775	4.40
Blair	198	4,602	4.30
Bradford	38	2,296	1.66
Bucks	474	8,991	5.27
Butler	192	4,970	3.86
Cambria	248	5,827	4.26
Cameron	1	227	0.44
Carbon	98	2,000	4.90
Centre	78	2,825	2.76
Chester	345	5,419	6.37
Clarion	37	1,607	2.30
Clearfield	151	3,411	4.43
Clinton	28	1,350	2.07
Columbia	63	2,102	3.00
Crawford	83	3,137	2.65
Cumberland	332	4,024	8.25
Dauphin	669	5,386	12.42

Delaware	640	9,605	6.66
Elk	25	1,217	2.05
Erie	464	8,294	5.59
Fayette	188	6,221	3.02
Forest	2	177	1.13
Franklin	69	4,048	1.70
Fulton	28	595	4.71
Greene	64	1,553	4.12
Huntingdon	34	1,762	1.93
Indiana	132	3,358	3.93
Jefferson	34	2,091	1.63
Juniata	22	771	2.85
Lackawanna	268	6,248	4.29
Lancaster	883	10,388	8.50
Lawrence	71	3,389	2.10
Lebanon	189	3,252	5.81
Lehigh	214	6,176	3.47
Luzerne	450	9,876	4.56
Lycoming	203	4,108	4.94

McKean	33	1,677	1.97
Mercer	47	4,113	1.14
Mifflin	62	1,728	3.59
Monroe	241	2,619	9.20
Montgomery	674	9,257	7.28
Montour	16	462	3.46
Northampton	164	5,878	2.79
Northumberland	106	3,503	3.03
Perry	48	1,477	3.25
Philadelphia	3,092	40,403	7.65
Pike	53	831	6.38
Potter	6	680	0.88
Schuylkill	209	5,189	4.03
Snyder	21	1,393	1.51
Somerset	123	3,303	3.72
Sullivan	9	179	5.03
Susquehanna	64	1,413	4.53
Tioga	8	1,577	0.51
Union	26	1,058	2.46
Venango	55	2,445	2.25
Warren	38	1,550	2.45
Washington	277	6,549	4.23
Wayne	65	1,471	4.42
Westmoreland	435	12,225	3.56
Wyoming	42	1,037	4.05
York	907	8,680	10.45
Statewide Totals	16,197	316,699	5.11

NOTE: 91 calls (0.56% of the total number of calls) could not be identified by County of origin.





COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

INSURANCE DEPARTMENT 1345 Strawberry Square Harrisburg, PA 17120 Phone (717) 705-0009 Fax (717) 705-1643

CHIP TRANSMITTAL #1999-1

DATE: February 17, 1999

SUBJECT: "Any Form is a Good Form" Health Care Benefits Application Process

TO: CHIP Contractors

FROM: Patricia H. Stromberg

Executive Director

PURPOSE

To provide instructions that allow the current Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) contractor application forms and the Department of Public Welfare (DPW) Medicaid application forms to be used for families to apply for children's healthcare benefits for both CHIP and Medicaid.

BACKGROUND

Currently, applicants for children's healthcare benefits must complete either a CHIP application or a Medicaid application (PA 600 or 600C) or both, depending on the ages of their children. In order to simplify the application process for families applying for their children's healthcare coverage, the Pennsylvania Insurance Department and the DPW have agreed to develop a common application form that will allow families to apply for healthcare benefits for children under either CHIP or Medicaid.

Until the common application form is available, the Pennsylvania Insurance Department and DPW will adopt a practice permitting the acceptance of either a CHIP application or a Medicaid application when a family is applying for healthcare coverage. This practice, "Any Form is a Good Form", means that information submitted on a CHIP application will be used to apply for Medicaid and information provided on a Medicaid application will be used to apply for CHIP.

DISCUSSION

Effective February 22, 1999, the "Any Form is a Good Form" practice will officially start. CHIP contractors will authorize CHIP benefits for eligible children using Medicaid applications when Medicaid is denied because the family's income exceeds the Medicaid income limits. County Assistance Offices will authorize Medicaid for eligible children using CHIP applications when CHIP benefits are denied because the family income is below the CHIP income limits, assuming all other eligibility requirements are met.

The date of application for Medicaid is the date the CHIP or Medicaid application is initially received by either the CHIP contractor or the CAO. This date of application is the start date for the 30-day Medicaid application processing time. All potential enrollments should be processed by the initial agency (CHIP contractor or CAO) within 15 calendar days of the date of application receipt. This will allow sufficient time for the application to be forwarded to the other agency for a timely eligibility determination (within 30 days).

Regardless of which application is submitted (PA 600, PA 600C or CHIP Provider Application), the following items must be obtained either through the parent or caretaker's statement or through verification.

The parent or caretaker's statement is acceptable for the following items:

- Identity of child or children and parent/caretaker
- Social Security Number (SSN)* (see Verification below)
- Citizenship
- Age and/or Date of Birth
- Family composition (listing of household members)
- Third party insurance (if family indicates insurance on the CHIP application contact [phone or mail a letter] the family and obtain the information)

Verification:

Agencies must verify the following items prior to authorization:

For CHIP (Contractors):

Income

For Medicaid (CAO):

- Income
- Non-citizenship status (if an applicant declares on the submitted form that they are not U.S. citizens).

*SSN within 60 days of eligibility determination the SSN of the applicant (child) must be verified. Client Information System (CIS) verification process will be used and the only time the actual SSN card will be required is when a CIS alert message is received stating data match was not found.

The following steps will be used to exchange application information:

CHIP Contractor to County Assistance Office (CAO)

• CHIP Contractor:

- Receives CHIP application and documentation.
- Determines child(ren) ineligible for CHIP because the family's income is below CHIP income limits.

Note: <u>In households with more than one child.</u> During the eligibility process, it is possible that one child is determined CHIP eligible and another child is not CHIP eligible. After the eligibility determination is completed for the CHIP eligible child, forward the application and documentation to the CAO for the Medicaid eligibility determination for the other child.

- Sends letter to applicant family informing them of CHIP ineligibility and explaining that the application has been forwarded to the CAO for evaluation of Medicaid eligibility (Attachment 1).
- Forwards the original CHIP application and all documentation (contractor maintains either an electronic or paper record of the application) to the local CAO, as determined by county of residence. The CHIP applications will be sent to the CAOs on Tuesday and Thursday of each week. The contractor mails the information to:

(County of Residence) CAO

Attn: MA Outreach Coordinator [List at Attachment 2] (Appropriate Address) [List at Attachment 3]

For Philadelphia CAO
Attn: Catherine Smith
MA Outreach Coordinator
Room #608
State Office Building
1400 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130

For Allegheny CAO
Attn: Mary Davis
Director, Division of Delivery Services & Operation Support Services
Allegheny CAO
Room 602
300 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

CAO:

Reminder: The date of Medicaid eligibility is the date the application is received by the CHIP contractor. The 30 days for Medicaid application processing begins the date the application was received by the CHIP contractor.

Receives CHIP application and documentation.

The CAO's Outreach Coordinator will monitor the transfer of all applications between the CAO and the CHIP contractor(s).

Note: If the CHIP application does not include the income and non-citizen documentation, the caseworker will telephone the family (household) and state that the information must be provided by the 30th calendar day from the date of the CHIP application or the application will be rejected. If unable to contact the family by telephone within two working days, the caseworker will mail a request for the documentation.

• Processes the CHIP application through Application Processing (AP) and Case Initiation (CI) as a "provider application".

Note: All CHIP contractors will be assigned provider numbers. The provider numbers are listed below:

CHIP Contractor	Provider Number
Caring Foundation of Central PA	C1717701
Caring Foundation of Northeastern PA	C1871101
Independence Blue Cross/PA Blue Shield Caring Foundation	I1910301
Western PA Caring Foundation for Children	W1522201
Aetna U.S. Healthcare	A1942201

• Determines Medicaid eligibility.

Note: If the applicants are ineligible for Medicaid, based on the application information, the caseworker will telephone the applicant to verify information on all household members, unpaid medical bills, paid medical bills, child/disabled adult care expenses, pregnancy, etc. If unable to contact the family by phone, the caseworker will mail a request for the information stating that the information must be received within 10 days. The caseworker cannot determine a family ineligible unless the family fails to provide the information within 10 days. Any information obtained from the family must be used as part of the eligibility determination.

- Sends appropriate eligibility notice to applicant family.
- Sends a letter (Attachment 4) to family informing them that their CHIP application
 was processed for Medicaid. The caseworker completes and encloses the rights and
 responsibilities form (Attachment 5) with the letter. The caseworker must ensure
 that the Case Record, Case Name and Address, Caseworker Signature and Date
 blocks are filled out.

Reminder: Medicaid applications do not require face-to-face interviews and the caseworker should make every effort to accomplish this process by mail or telephone.

- Annotates in the case record narrative that the letter and rights and responsibilities form were sent to the family (household).
- Maintains a copy of the letter and rights and responsibilities form in case record attached to the CHIP application.
- Contacts CHIP contractor (Attachment 6-this was sent out by e-mail to MA outreach coordinators only) within two working days to resolve cases determined Medicaid ineligible based on excess income. If necessary, the CAO will return all documentation to the CHIP contractor.

County Assistance Office (CAO) to CHIP Contractor

• <u>CAO:</u>

- Receives PA 600/PA 600C and obtains appropriate documentation.
- Determines ineligibility for Medicaid based on income exceeding Medicaid income limits.

Note: In households with more than one child. During the eligibility process, it is possible that one child is determined Medicaid eligible and another child is not Medicaid eligible. After the eligibility determination is completed for the Medicaid eligible child, forward a copy of the application and documentation to the CHIP contractor for the CHIP eligibility determination for the other child.

- Sends notice of ineligibility to applicant.
- Notifies the applicant that the Medicaid application was forwarded to a CHIP contractor for an eligibility determination (Attachment 7).

Note: If the children have health insurance, the application will not be forwarded to the CHIP contractor.

The CAO's Outreach Coordinators will monitor the transfer of all applications between the CAO and the CHIP contractor(s).

• Forwards a copy of PA 600/PA 600C application and all supporting documentation to CHIP contractor, using a copy of the client letter (Attachment 7). The Medicaid applications will be mailed to the CHIP contractor(s) (Attachment 8) on Tuesday and Thursday of each week.

Note: If a CAO has more than one CHIP contractor, the application packet is sent to the CHIP contractor based on the last digit of the case record number.

<u>Digits 1 to 5:</u> AETNA U.S. Healthcare Digits 6 to 0: Caring Foundation or BC/BS (Southeast)

Example – Record in Cumberland County 21/009767 is forwarded to the Caring Foundation of Central Pennsylvania based on the last digit of "7".

• CHIP Contractor:

- Receives copy of Medicaid application, documentation and client letter.
- Determines CHIP eligibility/ineligibility.
- Sends letter of eligibility/ineligibility to applicant.
- Contacts submitting CAO within <u>two</u> working days to resolve case determined CHIP ineligible based on income below the CHIP limit.

Monitoring and Reporting

For DPW Headquarters:

• Completes these requirements through CIS programs and reports.

For CHIP Contractor:

• Will receive instructions under a separate cover letter.

NEXT STEPS

- 1. Review the information in this Transmittal.
- 2. Implement this Transmittal effective February 22, 1999.
- 3. Contact Operations Manager, Lowware Holliman if you have any questions.

Attachments 8

7 Attachment 1
(CHIP Contractor Logo)
(Date)
(Parent/Guardian of Applicant Name) (Address)
Dear (Name)
We have received your application for healthcare benefits for (Child's or Children's Name(s))
The application has been reviewed and we found your child ineligible for the (CHIP Contractor Name) CHIP Program for the following reason:
Based on your family size and income, your child (or children) appears to be eligible for Medicaid.
Your application for benefits will be sent to the local County Assistance Office for a determination of eligibility for the Medicaid Program. If you are found eligible, you will be notified. If you do not hear from the Local County Assistance Office within 30 days, please feel free to contact the Healthy Beginnings Helpline at 800-842-2020 or your Local County Assistance Office.
Sincerely,

CHIP Account Associate

Attachment 2 MA Outreach Contacts

COUNTY	NAME	FAX	TELEPHONE
Adams	Colleen Hartman	717-334-4104	717-334-6241
Allegheny	Mary Davis	412-565-3660	412-565-2184
Armstrong	Cynthia Rearick	724-548-0274	724-548-0231
Beaver	Veronica Seery	724-773-7859	724-773-7852
Bedford	Terry Moxley	814-623-7310	814-624-4008
Berks	Dianne Black Joyce Miller Karen Raszkiewicz	610-736-4004	610-736-4257 610-736-4088 610-736-4258
Blair	Betsy Brooks	814-941-6813	814-946-6985
Bradford	Harry Durham	570-265-3061	570-265-9186
Bucks	Jeannette Tolia	215-781-3438	215-781-3313
Butler	Larry Rumbaugh	724-284-8833	724-284-8829
Cambria	Marge Davis	814-533-2214	814-533-2281
Cameron	Judith Ball	814-486-1379	814-486-3757
Carbon	Robert Stoffa	570-325-9543	570-325-9545 570-325-9564
Centre	Mary Stevens	814-863-6585	814-861-1974
Chester	Maura Creedon Dolan	610-466-1130	814-226-1793
Clarion	Judy Gardner	814-226-1794	814-226-1793
Clearfield	Robert Dornan	814-765-0802	814-765-7591
Clinton	Jeanine Stevenson	570-893-2973	570-748-2971
Columbia	David Berezovske	570-387-4708	570-387-4215
Crawford	Robert Say	814-333-3527	814-333-3407
Cumberland	Melanie Cohick	717-249-0919	717-240-2700
Dauphin	Jill Fagan	717-772-4703	717-787-1728
Delaware	Carrie Ross Tim Woestman	610-447-5399	610-447-3236 610-447-5585

	9		
COUNTY	NAME	FAX	TELEPHONE
Elk	Leona Garris	814-772-7007	814-776-1101
Erie	Kathleen Fries	814-461-2295	814-461-2107
	Karen Howard	814-461-2282	814-461-2217
Fayette	JoEllen Rawlings	724-439-7002	724-439-7203
Forest	Linda Masneri	814-755-3420	724-439-7020 814-755-3552
rorest	Hope Couch		614-733-3332
Franklin	Michele Stepler	717-264-4801	717-264-6121
Fulton	Kay Beach	814-485-3713	717-485-3151
Greene	Mary Harding	724-627-8096	724-627-8171
Huntingdon	Donald Shultz	814-643-5441	814-643-1170
Indiana	Mary Ann Baran	412-357-2951	412-357-2915
Jefferson	James McCurdy	814-938-3842	814-938-2990
	•		800-242-8214
Juniata	Fred Landau	717-436-5402	717-436-2158
Lackawanna	Charles DeSimone	570-963-4843	570-963-4453
Lancaster	Millicent Christie	717-299-7565	717-299-7502
	Tammy Collier		717-299-7620
Lawrence	Angelo Ginocchi	412-656-3222	412-656-3263
Lebanon	Olga Stoner	717-228-2589	717-270-3671
Lehigh	Beth Andrade	610-821-6705	610-821-6522
Luzerne	James Blinn	570-826-2178	570-826-2288
Lycoming	Sharon Alberts	570-321-6501	570-327-3304
McKean	Eugene Staiger	814-362-4959	814-362-5376
Mercer	Mark Wasser	724-983-5706	724-983-5110
Mifflin	Gayle Yingling	717-242-6099	717-242-6071
Monroe	Christine M. Papson	570-424-3915	570-424-3913
Montgomery	Susan Senycz	610-270-1678	610-270-3509
Norristown	Denise Terrell	,	610-270-3542
Montgomery Pottstown	Margaret Bauer	610-327-4350	610-327-5615
Montour	Gene Dela Croce	570-275-7433	570-275-7031
Northampton	Carrie Kelley	610-250-1839	610-250-1719
Northumberland	Diane Lepley	570-988-5918	570-988-5950
Perry	Betty Phillips	717-582-4187	717-582-2127
Philadelphia	Catherine Smith	215-560-2114	215-560-2371

	10		
COUNTY	NAME	FAX	TELEPHONE
Pike	Susanne Robbins	570-296-4183	570-296-6114
Potter	Cheryl Rimel	814-274-8958	800-446-9896
			814-274-9700
Schuylkill	Robert Piccioni	570-621-3014	570-621-3024
Snyder	James Wirth	570-374-6347	570-374-8126
Somerset	Don Miller	814-445-4352	814-445-1109
Sullivan	Frank Richart	570-928-8013	570-928-8596
Susquehanna	Michael Halesky	570-278-9508	570-278-3891
Tioga	Bonnie Andrews	570-724-4927	570-724-4051
Union	Gerald Gemberling	717-524-2361	717-524-2201
Venango	Robert Sandieson	814-437-4441	814-437-4279
Warren	Lynn Bowser Snyder	814-726-1565	814-726-8831
Washington - Valley	Polly Toriski	724-483-6894	724-483-6844
Washington - Wash	Richard Ward	412-223-4675	412-223-4321
Wayne	Albert Lipperini	570-253-7374	570-253-7100
Westmoreland	William Fish	724-832-5202	724-832-5269
Wyoming	Bernard J. Walsh	570-836-8761	570-836-5171
York	Joan Fulton	717-771-1261	717-771-1194
	Jackie Kohler		717-771-1199

(Local CAO letterhead)

(Date)
(Applicant's Name) (Applicant's Address)
Dear:
Your CHIP application was forwarded to our agency because your annual income meets the income eligibility limits for Medicaid. The following members of your family (household) were determined eligible for Medicaid:
You should have received, or shortly will receive, the ACCESS card for each person. Additionally, an HMO representative may contact you in order for you to select a plan that is best for your family.
If anyone in your household is pregnant or if anyone has employer based health insurance available, please contact me at the telephone number listed below. You may be eligible for additional Medicaid benefits.
If you have any questions please contact me at (Local CAO/Caseworker Telephone Number).
Sincerely,
(Caseworker's Signature) (Caseworker's Name)

Enclosure – Medicaid Rights & Responsibilities

Attachment 5

Case Record: /	Name:		
Address:			
Caseworker Signature:		Date:	

Medicaid Rights and Responsibilities

I agree to the release of personal and financial information from this application form and supporting documents to the agencies that provide children's healthcare benefits so that they can evaluate the information and verify eligibility.

I understand that Department of Public Welfare will maintain confidentiality of this information according to 42 CFR 431.300-431.307 and any other applicable Federal and state laws and regulations.

I understand that officials from the Medicaid program may verify all information submitted on my application for children's healthcare benefits.

I understand that I must immediately tell the Medicaid agency about any changes in the information on this form.

I understand that I have the right to ask for a hearing to appeal any Department of Public Welfare decision which affects my benefits or that I feel is unfair or incorrect. I may file the appeal at the County Assistance Office. At the appeal hearing, I may represent myself or someone else, such as a lawyer, friend or relative, may represent me.

I understand that anyone who knowingly lies or misrepresents the truth or arranges for someone to knowingly lie or misrepresent the truth is committing a crime. These crimes can be punished under Federal law, state law, or both. I understand that I may also be liable for repaying, in cash, the value of the benefits received and may be subject to civil penalties.

As a condi	tion of eligibilit	y, all recipien	ts of Medicaid are r	required to provide their	r Social
Security Number.	This is required	d by Section	1137(a)(1) of the So	ocial Security Act and	42 CFR
435.910. The Soc	ial Security Nu	mber may be	used to verify the	individual's income, el	igibility,
and amount of pay	ments for medic	cal care. Add	itionally, the inform	ation may be matched	with the
records in other a	gencies, such a	s the Social	Security Administra	tion and the Internal I	Revenue
Service. The follo	owing Social Se	curity Number	ers are needed for o	ur records, please prov	vide this
information	within	the	next	60	days:

Attachment 7 (Local CAO Letterhead)
(Date)
(Applicant's Name) (Applicant's Address)
Dear:
Your Medicaid application was reviewed and your child(ren)
was (were) found ineligible for Medicaid. You should already have received a notice telling you this. The gross household income used was \$
Your application will be sent to a CHIP contractor to determine CHIP eligibility for your children.
If you have any questions please contact (Local CAO/Caseworker Telephone Number).
Sincerely,
(Caseworker's Signature) (Caseworker's Name)
cc: (CHIP Contractor Name and Address)

Attachment 8

CHIP 1998-99 PARTICIPATING CONTRACTOR SERVICE AREAS BY COUNTY

1. Caring Foundation of Central Pennsylvania

2500 Elmerton Ave., Dept.777014, Harrisburg, PA 17177-7014

Adams, Berks *, Centre (1), Columbia, Cumberland *, Dauphin *, Franklin, Fulton, Juniata, Lancaster *, Lebanon, Lehigh *, Mifflin, Montour, Northampton *, Northumberland, Perry *, Schuylkill*, Snyder, Union and York*.

2. <u>Caring Foundation of Northeastern Pennsylvania</u>

70 North Main St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711

Bradford, Carbon, Clinton, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, Monroe, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne and Wyoming.

3. <u>Independence Blue Cross/Blue Shield Caring Foundation for Children</u>

1901 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19103-1480

Bucks *, Chester *, Delaware *, Montgomery *, and Philadelphia *.

4. Western PA Caring Foundation for Children

P.O. Box Caring, Pittsburgh, PA 15230-9779

Allegheny *, Armstrong *, Beaver *, Bedford, Blair, Butler *, Cambria, Cameron, Centre (1), Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette *, Forest, Greene, Huntingdon, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence *, McKean, Mercer, Potter, Somerset, Venango, Warren, Washington *, and Westmoreland *.

5. Aetna U.S. Healthcare

980 Jolly Road, P.O. Box 1109, Mailstop U36A, Blue Bell, PA 19422

Southeast: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton and Philadelphia.

Central: Berks, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Perry, Schuylkill, and York.

Western: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland.

- (1) The Caring Foundation of Central PA and Western PA Caring Foundation serve Centre County.
- * Denotes counties served by a least two CHIP contractors.

Attachment 6
CHIP CONTRACTOR CONTACT PERSONNEL
FOR PROBLEM RESOLUTION FOR
"ANY FORM IS A GOOD FORM"

Aetna US Healthcare

980 Jolly Road

P.O. Box 1109 Mailstop U36A Blue Bell, PA 19422 Nichole Biddle

Ph: (215) 775-4800 ext. 44564

Fax: (215) 775-5688 harthn@aetna.com

Public Access No: (800) 822-CHIP

(800) 822-2447

Caring Foundation of Central PA

2500 Elmerton Avenue

Dept. 777014

Harrisburg, PA 17177-7014

Kathy Schmitt

Ph: (717) 541-6692 kathy.schmitt@capbluecross.com

Public Access No: (800) KIDS-101

(800) 543-7101

Caring Foundation of Northeastern PA

70 N. Main Street

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711

Amy Evans

Ph:

Ph: (570) 819-8605

Marsha Hillard

Ph: (570) 819-8602

Public Access No: (800) KIDS-199

(800) 543-7199

cc: cindy.ranieli@bcnepa.com

Independence Blue Cross and Mattie Johnson

PA Blue Shield Caring Foundation for Children

joi Chilaren

1901 Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103-1480

Mattie Johnson (215) 241-3391

Fax: (215) 241-3679

Public Access No: (800) 464-KIDS

(800) 464-5437

Western PA Caring Foundation

for Children
P.O. Box Caring

Pittsburgh, PA 15230-9779

Stacey Bloom

Ph: (412) 544-1653 Fax: (412) 544-1657

Public Access No: (800) KIDS-105

(800) 543-7105



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES								
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION								
CHILDREN'S HEALTHINSURANCE PROGRAM						STATE	PA	
NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED						AGENCY	INSURANCE	
						QUARTER	ENDED	9/30/1998
The Commonwealth of PA Insurance Department			AGE			FEDEF	RAL POVERTY	LEVEL
		CHILDREN	1					
	UNDER 1	1-5	6-12	13-18		<100%	100-150%	>150%
1. NUMBER OF UNDUPLICATED CHILDREN EVER ENROLLED IN THE QUARTER								
A. FEE-FOR-SERVICE PLANS								
B. MANAGED CARE ARRANGEMENTS	119	8,689	25,492	23,181	57,481			
2. NUMBER OF UNDUPLICATED NEW ENROLLEES IN THE QUARTER								
A. FEE-FOR-SERVICE PLANS								
B. MANAGED CARE ARRANGEMENTS	71	3451	8324	7209	19,055			
3. NUMBER OF DISENROLLEES IN THE QUARTER								
A. FEE-FOR-SERVICE PLANS								
B. MANAGED CARE ARRANGEMENTS	7	1152	3274	2782	7,215			
4. NUMBER OF MEMBER MONTHS OF ENROLLMENT IN THE QUARTER								
A. FEE-FOR-SERVICE PLANS								
B. MANAGED CARE ARRANGEMENTS	387	55,697	237,000	248,272	541,356			
5. AVERAGE NUMBER OF MONTHS OF ENROLLMENT (LINE 4 DIVIDED BY LINE 1)								_
A. FEE-FOR-SERVICE PLANS								
B. MANAGED CARE ARRANGEMENTS	3.2521	6.41006	9.29703	10.7102	9.418			

FORM HCFA-21E



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6. OUTP	3333333 ATIENT HOSPITAL SERV	ICES 0³	0	3	O 3	
	33_ATIENT MENTAL HEALTH	FACILITY SERVI	CES 0	3	O 3	
8. PRES	33_CRIBED DRUGS	0 3	0	3	Оз·	
9. DENTA	333333333	0 3	0		O 3	-
	3 3					
0 3	ION SERVICES 03	O 3	0	3	0 3	
03 	03 333 ER PRACTITIONER"S SE	RVICES		3.	0 ³	
03 	03 ER PRACTITIONER"S SE 03 SINC SERVICES 03	RVICES 0 ³	0	3	3	
03 	03 ER PRACTITIONER"S SE 03 SINIC SERVICES 03	RVICES 03	0	3 3	0 ³	
03 	03 3	RVICES 0 ³ 0 ³ 0 ³ 0 ³	0		0 ³	

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUM HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINI	REPORT DATE: 11/25/1998		
CHILDREN'S HEALTH EXPENDITU 3STATE PA FOR THE TITLE XXI PROGRAM 3AGENCY EXPENDITURES IN THIS QUA 3QUARTER ENDÉD SEPTEMBER 30	TRES BY TYPE OF		
SUBJECT TO 10% LIMIT			
EFMAP ³ TOTAL ³ SHARE ³ COMPUTABLE ³ NAME OF PROGRAM CHIP ³ (B) ³ (C) ³	EFMAP 3 SHARE 3 SHARE (D) 3	FEDERAL	TOTAL TOTAL COMPUTABLE A A A A A A A A B A A B A B A B B
15. DURABLE AND DISPOSABLE M	MEDICAL EQUIPME 03	ENT O	3 03
16. FAMILY PLANNING 03 03	0 3	0	3 Оз
17. ABORTIONS NO.	0 3	0	3 03
18. SCREENING SERVICES 03 03			3 03
19. HOME HEALTH 03 03	03	0	3 O 3
20. RESERVED 03 03	О 3	0	3 03
21. HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASE	3	0	3 03
22. HOSPICE 03 03	O 3	0	3 Оз

			.33
23. MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION 03 03	O 3	0	3 03
24. CASE MANAGEMENT 03 03	03	0	3 03
25. OTHER SERVICES 03 03		0	3 0 3
26. OUTREACH 03 03	03	0	3 О 3
27. ADMINISTRATION	1,999 ³ 14,	, 999	3 03
28. BALANCE 10,086,408 ³ 22,263 ³	14,9993	10,101,407	³ 14,971,661 ³
29. LESS:COLLECTIONS 03 03	0 3	0	3 03
30. TOTAL (COLUMNS (A) + (COLUMNS (A			³ 14,971,661 ³
SUMMARY SHEET, LINE 1. 3 COLUMNS (A) AND (B) AS 3	3 APPROPRIATE).		3 3

FORM HCFA-21 PAGE 2 OF 2